



LILIHA/ PUUNUI/ ALEWA/ KAMEHAMEHA HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 14

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, JULY 10, 2006 MAE'MAE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Sesnita Moepono at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Arvid Youngquist, Robert Stubbs, Loy Kuo, Rachel Glanstein, Max Fowler, Sesnita Moepono, Donald Nitta, Dale White, Edward Thompson, Claude Uehara.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Leonard Kam, Jay Aguilar.

GUESTS: Debbie Kim Morikawa (Mayor's Office), Lydia Chock (Maluhia), Katie Churchey (Representative Corinne Ching's Office), Captain G. Harbottle (Honolulu Fire Department), Sgt. G. Costa, Major Kendro, Captain Yuh, Lt. Hu (Honolulu Police Department), Pat Lee (Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project), Iris Oda (Board of Water Supply), Henry Oliva (Governor's Lingle's Office), Scott Ishikawa (State Department of Transportation), Thomas Oshiro, Oliver Mattoon, Spencer Higa, Inilla Donnelly; Francis Nishimura, Miles Nishimura, Robert Shikina; Rodney Bactista; Vanessa Cabral; Frankie Lucas, Hank Kodama; Eyonne Zhang; Pat Hammers; Joey Manahan (Neighborhood Board Commission staff).

2. FILLING OF ONE VACANCY IN EACH SUBDISTRICT 1 and SUBDISTRICT 2: Chair Moepono asked for volunteers to be considered for either vacancy but there was no response. It will be carried over to next month.

3. RATIFICATION OF TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MEETINGS FOR 2006 – 2007 - The meeting is currently scheduled for the second Monday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Stubbs moved the meetings remain at the same time (second Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m.) and the same location of Mae'mae Elementary School for 2006 – 2007 and it was seconded by White the motion was adopted unanimously.**

4. APPROVAL OF MAY 8, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES -The following corrections were made:

- * Page 1 – HPD – Questions, comments and answers – item no. 4 –between “Chair Moepono” and “raised concern”, insert “reported a resident who”.
- * Page 3 – Community Organizations – Maluhia/Leahi Hospital – strike out “Lillian” and insert “Lydia”.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

JUNE 19, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – The following corrections were made:

- * Page 2 – Filling of Two Vacancies... – second paragraph – first sentence – strike out “Younquist” and insert “Youngquist”.
- * Page 4 – Huna and Huli Streets – last paragraph – strike out “ Nays:” and insert “1”.
- * Page 5 – Proposed Adult Care Center – Questions, answers and comments – item no. 1 – first sentence – strike out “faith-based organization” and “faith-based”, and insert “Tenrikyo Temple program” in both places.
- * Page 8 – Community Organizations – Maluhia/Leahi Hospital – strike out “Lillian” and insert “Lydia”.
- * Page 9 – Hawaii's Hotel Workers Rising Local 5 – second to last paragraph – first sentence – strike out “Our” at the beginning of the sentence and insert “Their”, and between “that is why” and “are reaching out” strike out “we” and insert “they”.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

5. RESIDENTS' CONCERNS & GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS' FORUM:



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A. Honolulu Fire Department, (HRD) Kuakini Station – Captain G. Harbottle reported for the past month there were: 8 structure fires; 6 brush fires; 10 rubbish fires; 5 vehicle fires; 81 medical emergencies; 5 search and rescue; 10 miscellaneous; and no major incidents.

Fire Safety Tip: Take time to childproof your home, especially since keiki are on summer vacation. Check for potentially dangerous situations, i.e. electrical shock, accidental falls, poisoning from medications, cleaning fluids and houseplants. Keep matches and lighter in a safe place and out of the reach of small children.

There were no questions. Chair Moepono thanked Captain Harbottle for his report.

B. Honolulu Police Department (HPD) Kalihi Station - Major Kendro, Lt. Hu, and Sgt. Costa gave statistics for June 2006: 1 sex offense; 2 robberies; 9 burglaries; 33 thefts; 27 UEMVs (unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle); 7 motor vehicle thefts; 12 assaults; 95 motor vehicle accidents; 14 property damage; 5 drug/narcotics; 6 family offenses; 63 arguments; and 3 DUIs (driving under the influence).

Sgt. Costa has been monitoring the parking violations at the Tea House and received a new complaint that people are parking on the property up to the road obstructing the view around the corner. HPD will address that with the management of the Tea House. Their parking lot comes right to the roadway – there is no break between the road and the parking area.

C. Residents' Concerns: Questions, answers and comments:

- a. Nitta said a contractor was installing a new water pipe in Sub District 3. He called the Kalihi Station reporting that the Board of Water Supply (BWS) was trespassing by coming on his property with a contractor to install a water regulator without notifying him. He postulated that if he had a sign saying "Do Not Trespass", then he could prosecute.

Major Kendo asked if Nitta had called the BWS to see if they were going to notify him of this work to be done; Nitta answered that he was not notified. Sgt. Costa noted that BWS cannot come if it is on private property.

- b. A resident inquired if there was any police input in the Board decision to close Na Pueo Park at 10 p.m.. Sgt. Costa responded that it is up to the area residents and the Neighborhood Board. Chair Moepono noted that a petition

of 200 residents to close the park at 10:00 p.m. was presented to the Board. HPD has no comment but will enforce the signs posted at the park.

- c. Youngquist expressed his appreciation for the presentation given by the HPD Toastmasters.
- d. Residents complimented HPD's efforts to get people off the areas with "No Parking" signs around the Natsunoya Tea House. The letter sent to the owner has filtered down to the valets, and some are trying to follow the rules. However some valets seem to be playing a game to see how long it takes for HPD to show up and ticket illegally parked cars. HPD will continue to monitor the area.
- e. A resident mentioned that many vehicles are parked right at the stop signs of Liliha Street and Kunawai Lane, which is very dangerous; HPD will follow up.
- f. Fowler noted the many illegal-looking mopeds in the Liliha and Kunawai areas piloted by children weaving in and out of traffic. Often there is more than one person riding on the moped. By the time HPD arrives, the mopeds have left the area. HPD reported that they are aware of the problem and issue citations for excessive noise, although they need a reason to pull over the moped driver. Glanstein pointed out that many of the moped drivers are obviously under the driving age and that should be reason enough for HPD to pull them over.
- g. Thompson requested an update on the "sting" at Liliuokalani Gardens. Inappropriate comments were made to his children walking through the park. Major Kendro responded that there were 14 arrests made there, but advised residents to call 911 immediately if there are any problems.

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- h. Major Kendro introduced himself; the new Commander for the District. He enjoys working in Kalihi and noted he worked with the Neighborhood Board Chair on the Kuakini extension project. He noted that installing "No Parking" signs around the Natsunoya Tea House may cause trouble with the residents in the area.
- i. Uehara asked what an officer will do if he or she pulls over a moped and the driver has no license. Sgt. Costa responded that the officer will cite the motorist and will not just let them drive off with no license.
- j. Youngquist asked how much is the fine for parking in an unimproved sidewalk area; Sgt. Costa answered that the fine is probably around \$35.00.
- k. Kuo noted the prostitution in the area near the Pali Safeway, where many Liliha residents go to shop. Lately on Kukui Street there has been a great deal of prostitution and last week there was a high profile murder case. He felt that the area has seemed to be cleaned up, but said that it's unfortunate that it took a murder to clean up the area.
- l. Stubbs reported that last week he talked to two people who live near the intersection of Judd Street and Nuuanu Avenue. They said that the prostitution has moved from the Pali Safeway into the area by the cemetery. Major Kendro suggested that the residents at Craigside Apartments have their security call 911.
- m. Captain Yuh introduced herself. She addressed Nitta and noted that the BWS may have an easement on his property to allow them to deal with BWS fixtures on the property. HPD does have a plain-clothes operation at Liliuokalani Gardens and they will continue to monitor the parking lot.
- n. Chair Moepono added that Prostitution has been a problem for years; her daughter has recently seen used condoms on the sidewalks and in the street on Judd & Nuuanu Streets.. She also noted that the Nuuanu Baptist Church area also had problems two years ago which caused the start of a Neighborhood Watch program. She requested that HPD send officers to patrol Judd Street late at night. Capt. Yuh requested specific times for monitoring. Chair Moepono suggested that HPD monitor the area from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Chair Moepono thanked the Honolulu Police Department for responding to the problems in the Liliha area.

RESIDENTS CONCERNS:

I. OLD CONCERNS:

- a. **Update on Kamalii Street re: Tea House Parking: see above.**
- b. **1861 Kualono** – Governor's representative Henry Oliva reported that the certified mail for the citation issued was returned; on a follow-up visit no one was home nor were the neighbors. They posted a field citation on the premises.
- c. **Huna and Huli Street** – Road Signs: No parking, Tow Away Request - Stubbs gave background history on an incident that happened March 17, 2006 when HPD was called on a complaint on the parking of a single vehicle but saw all the cars on Huna and Huli Streets were parked on an unimproved sidewalk; most people are not aware of the ordinances that provide for no parking on "unimproved sidewalks". HPD cited all the parked cars because that's what the law required. The signs on the street still indicate that people can park there so they continue to do so. Stubbs feels in fairness "No parking" signs should be installed to reflect the legal situation and alert motorists that they may be ticketed. He took a survey of 45 of the area residents on this area of Huna and Huli Streets and every resident but one (a renter) wants "No Parking" signs installed.

Stubbs moved, and Glanstein seconded, to change the parking signs on Huna and Huli Streets to say "No Parking" to reflect the legal situation of parking on unimproved sidewalks.

Youngquist raised a point of order that this motion was already considered last month and not adopted. Chair Moepono ruled the point of order not well-taken, explaining that it's a new meeting, and a new

motion, since the previous motion was not adopted,. HPD supports the changing of the signage on Huna and Huli Streets. Stubbs does have a petition with 45 signatures representing the residents' desire to have the parking signs reflect the legal situation.

The motion to change the parking signs on Huna and Huli Streets to say “No Parking” to reflect the legal situation of parking on unimproved sidewalks was adopted unanimously.

- d. **Helicopter Flight Pattern over NB Area** – Mayor's representative Debbie Morikawa reported that it is under the jurisdiction of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Kuo requested that the helicopters fly higher, so as not to rattle the windowpanes of residents in the area. Katie Churchey volunteered to contact the FAA on the subject.
- e. **Na Pueo Park Signs to Reflect Original Intent of Allowing Dogs** - D. Morikawa reported that the City Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has ordered new signs for the park allowing for leashed dogs. Chair Meopono stated there are two issues – making the park available to dogs and extending the park hours; she asked if the new signs will contain the new closure hours of 10 p.m., voted on at the last meeting. D. Morikawa responded that the Board has to make a specific request to DPR to extend the park hours. Thompson noted that the motion to extend the hours was adopted last month, so just a letter from the Board is needed. A resident mentioned that there are no lights at the park, so there's no reason for the park to remain open until 10 p.m.; he wondered if the petition clearly specified closure hours in addition to allowing dogs. Nitta asked for verification that the signers of the petition live in the area. A resident pointed out that the petition was very clear on the two points: allowing dogs and extending the park hours. Chair Moepono mentioned that Neighborhood Assistant Manahan had a copy of the petition on file, and suggested that Nitta review it.
- f. **Kunawai Park & Pond: Camera Surveillance** – D. Morikawa reported that no other parks use surveillance cameras because of the prohibitive costs. Chair Moepono asked if DPR would allow the Board to install and maintain cameras in the park. D. Morikawa will follow up.
- g. **Na Pueo Park Trees** – H. Olivia has been investigating the ownership of the trees at Kunawai park. A resident stressed the need to have these trees trimmed. D. Morikawa noted that the trees are State property. In May an employee of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) said the tax map noted that the trees are on City property – there's a jurisdictional issue occurring. Trees are an issue for many reasons – they block the view of fireworks and tilt as they get older, making it possible that they may fall. Trees can also be a threat for brush fires. Youngquist mentioned the article and photo of Kunawai Park and Pond in the Downtown Planet.

REMINDER: Chair Moepono noted the 10 minute time limit on presentations and two minute limit for all other reports, questions and testimonies per speaker per topic.

II. NEW CONCERNS:

D. Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Iris Oda reported that on Saturday, August 5, they will be having a “Friends of Halawa” Annual Xeriscape Garden Open House and Unthirsty Plant Sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be garden tours, a plant sale and workshops free for the public. Call 748-5041 with any questions. Also, the BWS is mailing to each of their customers their Annual Quality Water Report which explains where your water comes from, lists any contaminants in the water, and more. Call 748-5370 for more information.

Questions, answers and concerns:

Nitta requested that the project manager of the new pipe installation attend the next Board meeting to explain why they came onto his property, cut his pipe, and installed a regulator without his permission; he expressed his understanding that if the regulator breaks it is the resident's responsibility to replace it and he feels that the BWS trespassed on his property. I. Oda will follow up.

E. Councilmember Rod Tam's Office –Uehara reported an update on the Kuakini Street extension project: the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) sent a letter to DLNR requesting the State convey to the

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City only that portion of the parcel that is required for the project. DTS requested a response no later than July 31, 2006; the response has yet to be received. In the meantime Councilmember Tam introduced a resolution in the City Council requesting that DLNR grant a conveyance to DTS, which will be taken up by the full Council on July 19, 2006. Councilmember Tam has also written a letter of support to the Chair of the Board of the DLNR (BLNR) and also requested that this item be put on BLNR's agenda for its July 28, 2006 meeting. A letter was also written to Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland requesting her assistance in getting DLNR to accept DTS' latest request for the land conveyance and placement on their agenda.

Questions, answers and concerns:

1. Youngquist asked why the bill was denied \$5 million. Uehara answered that the Council wanted to follow the regular procedure of all bills submitted to the Council – they don't want to fast-track it because they feel something that important should be discussed openly in the public and be given the full three readings before adoption.
2. Fowler noted that at the last Kunawai Neighborhood Watch meeting questions were raised as to the progress on the renovations to Kunawai park. Uehara stated that a letter will be received explaining the \$600,000 breakdown for renovations. D. Morikawa highlighted descriptions received from the City Department of Design and Construction (DDC), which included ADA compliance, repairing termite and rot damage, replacement of toilet and lighting fixtures, adjusting the plumbing and installing new tile. Uehara specified that these planned repairs are from last year's budget. Fowler requested that security gates be installed as well.
3. Francis Nishimura noted that some of the Board members may be leaving soon, requested that item no. 8(a) on the agenda (Resident Request to Support City's Request for Right of Way for a Portion of the Area Known as the Kuakini Extension Area and Request the BLNR to Place it on their July Agenda for their Approval) be taken up now.

Youngquist moved, and Glanstein seconded, that item no. 8(a) on the agenda be taken up now, which was adopted unanimously.

8(a). Resident Request to Support City's Request for Right of Way for a Portion of the Area Known as the Kuakini Extension Area and Request the BLNR to Place it on their July Agenda for their Approval - Uehara moved, and Stubbs seconded, that the Neighborhood Board No. 14 send a letter to DLNR requesting the support of DTS' request for the conveyance of only that part of the parcel necessary to construct the modified Kuakini Street Construction Project and that this matter be placed on BLNR's July 28, 2006 agenda for approval.

Questions, answers and concerns:

1. Thompson asked what part of Keola Drive is needed for the extension. It was reported that it will connect with the existing road where the Weinberg residence is located. No residents will be displaced, since the area in question is a vacant lot with utilities poles now.
2. F. Nishimura stated that this extension will provide a safer route for the community – the goal is to create a four-way intersection where Lanakila Avenue and Kuakini Street meet; Keola Drive will be made into a dead-end.
3. Vanessa Cabral from the Kunawai Neighborhood Watch supports this resolution but specified that crosswalks and sidewalks are needed there. V. Cabral announced that she represented 35-50 people in her neighborhood.
4. Fowler noted that the area is dangerous now, and the residents in his area support the proposal to extend Kuakini Street.
5. Kuo asked if Keola Drive is currently maintained by the City. Uehara responded that Keola Drive is a private road, but the City does maintain it. The City will continue to maintain the road after the completion of the Kuakini Extension project, since Keola Drive serves more than six residents.

The motion that the Neighborhood Board No. 14 send a letter to DLNR requesting the support of DTS' request for the conveyance of only that part of the parcel necessary to construct the modified Kuakini Street Construction Project and that this matter be placed on BLNR's July 28, 2006 agenda for approval was adopted unanimously. Chair Moepono thanked the residents for attending the meeting.

The order of the agenda resumed.

F. Mayor's Representative – D. Morikawa reported:

1. The Mayor was appointed to the U.S. Conference of Mayors – it has been a while since a mayor from Hawaii has been part of that group.
2. The Mayor's Chinatown Summit was a big success and he got a lot of positive comments from it.
3. The Mayor is looking at the homelessness issue, how many restrooms are in the downtown area and increased lighting and cleaning up parking areas because a lot of people are commenting that the parking areas are dark and smell of urine.
4. The City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) is going to inspect walkways on Lanakila Avenue on both sides of the street looking at the asphalt and concrete work – there's a question of who is responsible for that which they will investigate.

Chair Moepono thanked D. Morikawa for being so thorough.

Glanstein departed at 8:40 p.m., leaving nine (9) members present.

G. Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project Status – Pat Lee, a part of the Public Involvement Team, reported he is almost at the midpoint of the Alternatives Analysis. He was grateful for those who took time to attend the public meetings. Their information will be posted on the website. The next phase is the Environmental Assessment (EA) and there will be opportunities to testify.

Questions, answers and concerns:

1. Kuo asked if they had considered building the project in phases starting first in downtown to the stadium park and ride facility and if that works out, then expanding it further and have people drive half of the way in and take the new transportation the other half. P. Lee answered that due to the size and scope of the project it will in be done in phases. The rail options being considered are underground and overhead.
2. Kuo asked if they had considered the consequences to the existing bus system – that increased rail make take ridership away from the bus system, subsidized by the City, which may make the bus system inefficient. P. Lee reported that the idea is going through the Hub and Spoke process. The Bus system will be integrated to work with rail to make it more efficient and with greater ridership for a wholistic mass transit system for a single fare as done in Vancouver. All bus systems are subsidisized.

Chair Moepono thanked P. Lee for his report.

H. GOVERNOR'S REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – H. Oliva circulated the Governor' s Report and yielded to Scott Ishikawa, Spokesperson for the State Department of Transportation (DOT), who reported the following:

- a. Maintenance schedules were changed due to heavy rains washing out roads out so crews were diverted and could not finish all of the work. When the schedule is back to normal DOT will do a traffic study.
- b. Safety issues – DOT went to the Highway Safety Administration to reduce the Liliha on-ramp lane from 12 feet to 11 feet. The work was done on June 12 and 13 for \$25,000. The bottleneck on the Liliha onramp caused people to ride the shoulder to get around the traffic and use the Pali Highway exit. The lane's size has been reduced from 12 feet to 11 feet in order to create another lane dedicated to the Pali Highway exit. DOT will do a traffic study on August 21 when school is back in session to see if this change has made a difference.

Questions, answers and comments:

1. Chair Moepono noted that she drove down the Liliha onramp and noticed the cars from the freeway were able to enter the new lane providing for egress to Pali Highway and from Liliha Street to the freeway. This situation could create an accident. She asked if DOT could make a solid line one the freeway side and a dotted line on the Liliha onramp side long enough to allow Liliha Street cars to cross over into the freeway without competing with freeway cars entering the new lane. S. Ishikawa said he would take a look at that location. Chair Moepono expressed her appreciation for the change.

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2. Thompson commented that the recently repaved A'ala overpass drains onto the H-1 Freeway below creating potholes when it rains. S. Ishikawa will follow up.
3. Kuo asserted that the additional lane is for Windward motorists going from Costco back to the Windward side but mentioned that there is another route. He requested DOT consider the large center median area underneath the H-1 viaduct near Olomea and Palama Streets, which could be cut into a free sector median u-turn and then many motorists could make a u-turn and easily get to the Likelike Highway and go back to the Windward side. Ishikawa replied that DOT has looked at about four or five alternatives in the last three years, but will consider this idea.

Chair Moepono thanked Scott Ishikawa for attending.

I. Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland – No representative present.

J. REPRESENTATIVE CORINNE CHING'S OFFICE – Katie Churchey distributed Rep. Ching's report and gave the following information:

1. Abandoned vehicles in the neighborhood have been removed.
 2. Rep. Corinne Ching's Office is requesting additional crosswalks in the neighborhood.
 3. Rep. Ching's Office is cleaning up some of the parks as their own project. They are now cleaning up Kawanānākoa Park since it will be the site on August 26 for the "I Love Liliha" festival. Anyone interested in participating or volunteering may call Beth Ho at 845-1276.
 4. Road concerns are also being addressed – a resident gave us an address with potholes that is on a private road. On the back of the report there are criteria that must be followed to get the City's involvement if the road outside a home is privately owned.
 5. Rep. Ching will look into the flight patterns over the neighborhood and will report back at the next meeting.
- Call Rep. Ching's Office with any questions or comments.

K. REPRESENTATIVE DENNIS ARAKAKI'S OFFICE – No representative present.

6. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

- A. Convalescent Center** – No representative present.
- B. Kuakini Medical Center** – No representative present.
- C. Lanakila Rehabilitation Center** – No representative present.
- D. Maluhia/Leahi Hospital** – Lydia Chock was available for questions.

7. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

8. NEW BUSINESS:

a. See above

b. No representative from Voter Owned Hawai'i to present their Resolution

9. BOARD BUSINESS:

A. CHAIR'S REPORT:

A letter was received from Rep. Corinne Ching's office on the "I Love Liliha" festival.

- a. Youngquist asked to discuss whether the Board wants a Political Forum for 2006. He feels Neighborhood Boards are non-partisan so a forum would not be necessary for the primary. The forum could be placed on the August agenda. No motion was made.
- b. Request by Defend Oahu Coalition (formed in January 2006 by residents in North Shore and Windward Oahu) to be placed on the agenda – Chair Moepono asked if the Board wanted this on the agenda, since this won't affect the neighborhood directly. The Board agreed to have it on next month's Agenda. She will advise them that they will be on the September agenda.

The Board voted to have a booth at the I Love Liliha Festival - Chair Moepono remembered working on the first festival with Youngquist, White, Nitta & Thompson. Thompson said it's good to network and get feedback but he needs to check his availability. He has a sample questionnaire he used before and they had a banner with a picture. Nitta will bring a tablecloth and banner. Nitta & Thompson volunteered to coordinate with the I Love

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Liliha Festival. Chair Moepono asked Nitta & Thompson to check with Board members on their availability to man the booth before committing. Moepono urged Board members to participate and to inform Nitta or Thompson..

B, Treasurer's Report – No report.

9(c). Committees and Committee Chair – Form & Elect Committee Chairs – **Youngquist moved, and Chair Moepono seconded, that Nitta chair the Transportation Committee, which was adopted unanimously.**

Youngquist moved that Thompson chair the Legislative Committee. Thompson respectfully declined but will assist anyone who would like to be the Chair (so the motion was unofficially withdrawn).

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS: NEXT MEETING

11. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by Bonnie Trustin, Neighborhood Commission Staff

Reviewed by Rachel M. Glanstein, Board Secretary and Sesnita A. Moepono, Board Chair